schemes of Government of India. The National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) has been supportive of efforts at formation of export consortia of SSIs.

Cooperation between India and Thailand in the field of space

†2051. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Thailand are considering to have cooperation in the field of space;

(b) if so, the whether Government have taken any action so far in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An Agreement has been signed on February 1, 2002 between the Government of India and the Government of Thailand on cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes. This is an umbrella Agreement under which specific cooperative activities could be carried out depending on mutual interest.

Study of data sent by TERRA

2052. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU); Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US satellite TERRA launched in last December under an international programme named Global Land Ice Management from Space (GLIMS) has started sending data on the Himalayan Glaciers, feeding Ganges, Brahmaputra and Indus rivers; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.